



GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

MAIN LINE

FEBRUARY, 2010

Volume 19

Number 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bill East

The January meeting was the start of a new year for the club. We wish to congratulate Bill Lindsay for joining our club. We are glad to have you. Bill is an "S" gauger who brought his Hiawatha set to show at the club meeting. It was an exquisite display. A sad part of the January meet was the fact that one of our life members has passed away. Frank Koenig passed on December 21, 2009; we will all miss him. Our condolences go to out to Dale.

Glen Saber brought in a Blue Comet and the car to go with it, in miniature. Dave Brown brought his Lehigh Valley RS-3 and Budweiser GP9 with a kit built beer can tank car. I brought in two TCA convention cars, a Hoover dam transformer car and a Santa Fe Grand Canyon Route reefer car, a three car BNSF set of flat cars with a jet engines, a Sunoco tank car, and an American Flyer circus animal transport car. I also brought in the Union Pacific "Big Boy" that works with Legacy TMCC or conventional control. My cars and locomotive were all delivered in later part of December 2009.

This year's dues are due now. Most everyone paid their dues at the January meeting. If you didn't pay at the meeting, or have not done that yet, please do so ASAP!

I gave a report on the work being done to the club trailer. The two sides have been cut back and the top has been lowered. The sign has been removed and cleaned up. We are going to reletter the sign with "Grand Canyon Model RR" and put our new logo on it. We will be reglueing the carpeting and reinstalling the outer rim on the table. The standard gauge track has been removed and will be replaced with Gargraves five rail track. This will allow the running of Standard gauge, "O" gauge or "G" gauge on the track. No not at the same time! Dave Brown is overseeing the rewiring of the trailer. Last of all the transformers will be remove and checked

out. When all of this is done, then we will paint the trailer the same gray color to match the club shirts. Then we will ready for display.

At the meeting, there were two people with things to sell, Tom Stange and Sam McElwee. I hope to see more people bring in trains and stuff to sell.

We also talked about the swap meet at the Armory in February. We will need people at the there on the 26th to set up tables. On the 27th we will need lots of help to run the show, sell raffle tickets, help at registration, help in at the food stand, and at the end of the day, take down all the tables. This is our biggest event and our biggest money maker for the year. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!!! Art Triant is the person in charge. If you have any questions, or want to find a place to help at the meet, please call him!

Let's make this a great year!



Dave Brown had fun at the January meeting displaying some of his "frothy" train items.

CALENDAR

GCMR meets are held at 9:00am in the Parish Hall of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church at 1212 E Glendale Avenue in Phoenix, located on the north side of Glendale, just east of the traffic light at 12th St. It is easily reached off the Glendale Exit of either I-17 or SR 51. Go east from I-17 or west from SR 51 to 12th Street.

February 27 - GCMR Open Swap Meet, all members and public welcome! (See the article this issue)

March 27 - GCMR Meeting - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

April 24 - GCMR Meeting - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

OTHER TRAIN EVENTS

April 17 - 18 EagleWings Ironworks Garden Railroad Open Houses - throughout the Phoenix area. Flyer:

www.eaglewingsironcraft.com/pdf/2010_OH_Flyer.pdf

April 24 - 25 Winslow Railroad Days and ATSF Historical Society mini meet. For information go to: home.comcast.net/~tucsonntrak/ASWMRR/ASWMRR_Info_Overflow.html

May 8 - 9 - Williams - Amtrak National Train day event hosted by the Grand Canyon Chapter of the NRHS and the Grand Canyon Railroad.

June 3 - 6 The Big Train Show - Ontario, CA for info: www.bigtrainshow.com

June 30 - July 3 O Scale National Convention - Santa Clara, CA Open to all. Swap meet and O, S and HO layout tours. Info: www.2010oscalenational.com/index.shtml

THE MID WINTER SWAP MEET IS HERE!

The annual Mid Winter Meet is on hand! If you have not signed up for a table or to help, please do so. Hopefully all club members will be involved in some way.

We will need people to set up tables on Friday February 26 and assist in the tear down on Saturday February 27 after the meet. Setup will be in the afternoon and early evening on Friday and will entail unstacking, unfolding, and placing the tables and chairs. It's not real heavy work but the more hands we get the quicker it will go. In the previous couple of years, six to eight guys set the room up in about two hours, so bring some gloves (if you have tender hands like The Stick) and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow GCMR members. Additionally both the O and S gauge modular layouts will be set up on Friday afternoon/evening.

On Saturday the doors will open as soon as our security officer arrives to open the building. Plan on 6:30 to 7:00am. On Saturday there will be a need for help getting the vendors to their assigned tables, so if you don't have a specific task, such as setting up the sound system, preparing the kitchen, or getting the modules running, please give a hand at wherever it is needed.

During the meet we will need members to man the entrance, sell raffle tickets, assist vendors, meet and greet our guests, and general assistance tasks, so please make time for GCMR. Our guests will begin entering the hall at 9:00 and assistance will be needed at the front door.

At 3:00 we will begin the tear down and stacking of the tables. This usually is easier than the setup but we still need willing hands for a couple of hours.

The hall is rented and paid for, O gauge Railroading magazine, Classic Toy Trains, Kalmbach Publishing, and the Arizona Department of Tourism have been notified, The web site has both public and vendor information and forms in pdf format.

Flyers have been distributed at train meets since early August and have been distributed to train stores, P&P clubhouse, the Railroad Park.

Information that you may need is on our web site www.gcmrr.org. This is our big public event of the year, so thanks for your help!

Board of Directors

| | | | | | |
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| | | | | ART TRIANT | 623-556-0846 |

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Glenn Saber brought his Christmas engine to show at the January meet.



Well, maybe it will not quite fit on Standard Gauge track!

MEETING NOTES

+ The club trailer. Work is proceeding. Ends have been cut down, wiring removed. It will be painted gray, after the wiring is completed. Workdays are the next two weekends Saturday and Sunday beginning 9AM to 2 PM. The location is the former Sands Chevrolet at 1133 W. Bell Rd., Phoenix

The track is the Gargraves 5 rail so that multiple gauges will be accommodated. The track is flex type and will be custom bent to fit the space.

+ Rod Johnson thanked the GCMR for the financial support provided to those that took the modules to Cal Stewart.

+ Suggestion was made that a sign or billboard be installed on the trailer layout as a thank-you to our Sands Chevrolet host.

+ Bill East asked that we all remember Frank Koenig. He also asked that members not contact Dale Downey regarding Frank's trains.

+ Art Triant, Meet Chairman, indicated the swap meet

has sold 40+ tables at this time. He asked for presentation ideas to stimulate interest at the train meet. Contact Art with ideas

+ Setup for the Meet tables will be in the early afternoon (1:00 -2:00) Friday, February 26. Plan to help and let Art know you will be available. Membership participation is needed and necessary to support the GCMR.

+ John Draftz suggested that we contact local train clubs to include information regarding the meet in their newsletters.

+ Wayne Ross has received the raffle prizes from Classic Toy Trains, Grand Canyon RR, Verde Canyon RR, AZ Cardinals, AZ Diamondbacks and a promise from O-Gauge Railroading.

+ John Pryor encourages all members to work the Meet selling raffle tickets. This is a major part of our fund raising.

+ Dave Brown indicated that the Grand Canyon RR request for our trailer has not progressed further, but the event would be in May 2010 (note: see article this issue).

+ Open House at Dave Browns from 1-3 today.

+ The next business meeting will be in March.

+ Ken Barnes moved that GCMR issue a plaque and a five-year membership to the owner of the Sands Chevrolet building in appreciation of the use of their facility. Seconded and Approved

Show and Tell: Glen Saber showed his Blue Comet set done in pseudo N gauge.

Dave Brown showed his Lehigh Valley and Judy's Budweiser loco, and a beer car kit from the 70's

Bill East displayed the S gauge passenger set.

DUES ARE STILL DUE

Members have been very good in sending in their GCMR membership renewals. But, there are still several that Paul Boston has not heard from. Please send in your renewal while you are thinking of it. You may rejoin at any time, but for this year, the cutoff will be March 1. After that time, you will no longer receive the newsletter and not be listed in the 2010 membership roster. For your convenience, there is a renewal form included in this newsletter. Just fill it out and return it to Paul Boston.

APACHE BEER CARS



The Desert Division's Apache Beer Atlas reefers are in. They are still available if you would like one. Just go to the Desert Division website at tcadd.org if you would like one. Or you may contact your editor as I have the inventory.

AMTRAK NATIONAL TRAIN DAY

by Peter Atonna

For the past couple of years Amtrak has sponsored National Train Day in early May to bring public attention to passenger trains. They have put on exhibits in stations at major cities such as Los Angeles and Washington, DC. Last year they also encouraged local groups to sponsor activities too and over 40 events were held nationwide. This year the day will be on May 8th.

For this year, our local Grand Canyon chapter of the National Railway Historical Society in Williams decided to join the fun and put on an exhibit too. We contacted the Grand Canyon Railway (not difficult since a good share of our members work for the railroad) and they have now agreed to put on the center piece of our day - steamer #4960 will be running and pull hourly excursion runs during the weekend.

With that, our group is putting on a full show for Saturday and Sunday with modular train layouts from N gauge to live steam, a railroad and model photo exhibit, Operation Lifesaver, displays of a Grand Canyon steam and diesel locomotives and hopefully BNSF also. Also our ATSF caboose will be open and Al Richmond will have exhibits from his growing collection at the Arizona Railroad Museum. We are also working with the Williams Chamber of Commerce to see if the town can join us with local exhibits and merchandise.

We are talking with the GCMR folks and hopefully the trailer will be available to join the event.

So, mark your calendars for May 8 and 9 for what we hope will be one of the biggest railroad weekends.



More of Dave Brown's brewski's on wheels

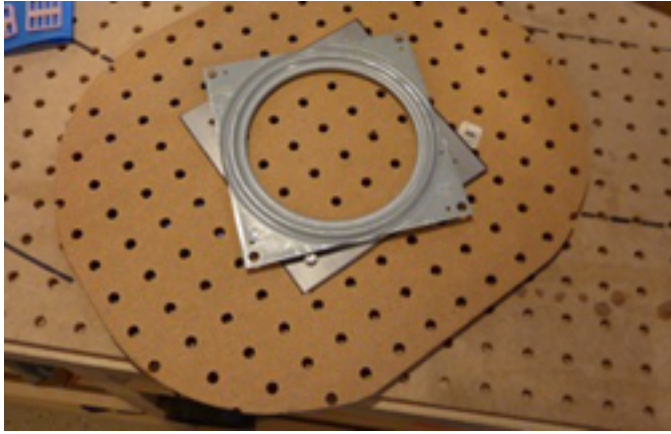
PAINTING LAZY SUSAN

by Paul Boston

A few years ago a friend from Long Island asked if I knew where to get his childhood Lionel steam engine fixed and I told him about a guy here in Phoenix. He sent the engine and it was a basket case. Parts missing and broken from too many trips off the table onto the floor. Cow catcher broken, paint in a terrible way, motor Aw you know what I mean.

Well, Angelo said he could fix it and he did a fantastic job. Right up his alley! But the paint job really needed to be redone and I had an air brush and the requisite paint but how to hold the engine, rotate it and get a good paint job without smudging the paint. What was needed was a way of supporting the engine from the inside, high enough to spray all the parts while rotating it for the paint application.





A Lazy Susan assembly would allow the rotation if it was fastened to a piece of plywood that would serve as a parts holder. But making a holder that was easily modifiable was another story until the peg board came into view. A piece of 2X4 with pegs that fit the peg board holes would provide a support the engine off the turntable, and a couple more dowels sprouting from the top of the 2X4 would allow the engine to rise off the support block. It worked really well, and the engine was returned to an overjoyed owner.



That would be the end of the story but while assembling a couple of really tacky PlasticVille trailers for a trailer park I couldn't bear to see a pink trailer with pink windows and pink roof and pink wheels and pink You know. But how do I support the trailers, and better still, how can I paint all the little parts quickly, easily and cleanly.

After painting my fingers while trying to hold the trailer I remembered the lazy susan and the problem was solved. I had already mounted the small parts on a piece of masking tape, fastened the tape to a piece of scrap so it wouldn't be blown by the spray, and walked around the first set of parts to get them coated without getting too much paint on myself while rotating the scrap. A quick look at the lazy susan and the next two

sets of parts were then taped to the rotating plate and the spray-and-spin was completed in minutes!



As you can see from the photos, the device has seen some quite a bit of use. The spray booth is not OSHA approved and not recommended for indoor use (it's a cardboard box from Home Depot), but for very small projects like this it is quite adequate and keeps the paint over spray from going everywhere.

LIONEL'S NEW GE HYBRED DIESEL

by Peter Atonna



It seems like this season's hot new item in the hobby is the arrival of Lionel's GE Hybrid diesel. This is the first diesel released in the new "top of the line" Vision series and features a die cast shell, a new high in details such as opening hatch doors with the insides detailed. As a "green" locomotive, Lionel even changed the smoke output so that it blows only when the engines are ramping up. But the real show stopper is the lights on the sides. These on the demonstrator show the charging pattern of the onboard batteries.

Mary Jane and I were fortunate to see a demonstration of it while at the Lionel presentation at last October's York meet. Despite the fact that I personally would prefer locomotives with railroad rather than

demonstrator names as well as the super dollars it would take to buy it, there was a real temptation after seeing the demo.

If you would like to see a short video of it in action go to:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=xKZ8201Xbv8&feature=related

WINNERS !

Regular Meet Drawings:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| K-Line Chinese | |
| New Year Gondola | Dave Brown |
| Lionel Alaska RR | |
| Flatcar | Bill Richardson |
| Lionel UP Three-Dome | |
| Tank Car | Ken Barnes |
| Lionel Reading Reefer | Jack Eaton |
| Industrial Rail C&NW | |
| Stack Car | Rod Johnson |
| Mystery Raffle | |
| Lionel Operating | |
| Milk Car | Jack Eaton |

BUY - SELL

As a service to our members, we offer to list items you are looking for or wish to sell. Just send your information to the Editor

FOR SALE: Prewar Lionel and American Flyer O and Standard Gauge accessories. Also Leland Detroit monorail, Buddy L Industrial train and roundhouse/turntable. Photos available. Email for a list. **Peter Atonna.** mjatonna@commspeed.net

THE TRAILER REBUILD

After fifteen years of loyal service our layout trailer is undergoing a major remake and update. Here are some photos from Glenn Saber of the work the fellows are doing on getting our mobile display ready for another fifteen years of showing our hobby to the public.

When done, it will have a new, lowered profile to fit into doors easier, new wiring, a new sign and a complete repaint job.



The beginning, sides are cut down for a lower profile



Pulling wires



Grinding the new welds



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE

It's that time of year again. Dues are Due. GCMR Annual Dues are \$35.00. Please renew by filling out this form and mailing it in or bring to the next meet. Club dues are delinquent after the last day of February.

NAME _____ SPOUSE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE/ZIP _____ TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Would you be interested in receiving monthly newsletter by email ? Yes___ No___

Would you be interested in holding a layout or collection open house? Yes___

How would you be willing to volunteer your time to the Club? _____

AREAS OF INTEREST

Please circle your areas of interest. You may circle as many in each category as you wish.

| <u>ERA</u> | <u>GAUGE</u> | <u>MANUFACTURER</u> | <u>LAYOUT</u> | <u>PERIPHERALS</u> |
|------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| A-Prewar | D-O/O27 | N-American Flyer | Y-Yes | 1-Figures |
| B-Postwar | E-Scale | O-Lionel | N-NO | 2-Toys |
| C-Modern | F-Std | P-Marx | | 3-Paper, Books |
| | G-G or #1 | Q-Atlas | | 4-Buildings |
| | H-S, Flyer | R-Dorfman | | 5- Railroading |
| | I-HO | S-MTH | | 6-Other |
| | J-OO | T-Williams | | |
| | K-N | U-K Line | | |
| | L-Z | V-Marklin | | |
| | M-Other | W-Other | | |

After completion, please mail this renewal form along with your check in the amount of \$35.00 made payable to GCMR to:

Paul Boston, Secretary GCMR
14320 Thoroughbred Trail
Scottsdale, AZ 85259

THE MAIN LINE
Peter Atonna, Editor
25375 N. Feather Mountain Rd.
Paulden, AZ 86334



The GCMR layout trailer is undergoing a major renovation and upgrade.
See more of this project inside.